

## SUESA GAY OLD MAN. WALSH IS INSANE.

Miss Howard Wants \$20,000 Damages from Mr. Morris.

Wrote Tender Letters and Was to Marry Her.

He is an Ex-Freelancer and Worth About \$200,000.

(Special to The Evening World.) ELIZABETH N. J. AUK. 11.—What will probably be a sensational breach of promise suit when it comes to trial has been commenced in the New Jersey Supreme Court by Miss Fannie E. Howard, formerly of this city, but now living in Newark, who wants \$20,000 damages from ex-freelancer Justice Morris, of L. J. Lewis Township.

Mr. Morris will be seventy-three years old in November, while the fair plaintiff is only twenty-four, and a rather plain-looking girl. Mr. Morris courted her against the wishes of his children, but the ex-freelancer did not care a button for their hostility, and preparations for the wedding went right ahead.

The couple were to be married last Thanksgiving. A minister had been engaged. Invitations were sent out, the fattest turkey on the farm had been killed for the feast and everything was ready for a big celebration at the home of the wedding Mr. Morris was stricken with acute pneumonia. His condition for a time was critical, and he was thought by doctors to be unable to get well.

His intended bride nursed him faithfully through his illness of two months. It is alleged, while ill made a will, leaving his property to her, but this document has since, it is said, been destroyed.

It was supposed the couple would be married as soon as the ex-freelancer was well enough, but the groom that was no anxious to get on with the marriage performance became strangely ill, and the nuptials were postponed from month to month. Finally, it is said, Mr. Morris curtly informed the woman that he had changed his mind and had no intention of marrying her. She was too old to again embark in th matrimonial sea.

On consultation with her friends Miss Howard placed the matter in the hands of Samuel Kallish, a criminal lawyer of Newark, who began suit for damages. The papers have been served on the defendant, and a return of them made to the Supreme Court.

When Deputy Sheriff Clarke served the writ on Mr. Morris, the old fellow laughed heartily and seemed to regard it as a good joke. He is worth it, it is estimated about \$200,000, chiefly in valuable real estate.

He was a prominent figure in the last five years, he has been devoted himself to farming.

It is said that Miss Howard's friends blame the influence exercised by his sons over the old man since his illness for breaking up the match, while on the other hand the Morris family asserts that the old man was called into making the engagement by the attorney of the plaintiff and her friends, who wanted to see him get control of the ex-freelancer's wealth.

He wrote her tender letters, and wrote her tender letters, and it will be produced in evidence at trial.

## CHANGE OF VENUE.

The Lawrence Divorce Case Transferred to Rockland County.

Judge Trux, in Supreme Court, Chambers, to-day granted Mary H. Lawrence \$5 a week alimony and a counsel fee of \$5 pending the decision of her suit for an absolute divorce from William H. Lawrence. The Judge also granted a motion made by counsel for the defendant to transfer the trial of the case from this county to Rockland County.

Mr. Lawrence is sixty-one years old and his wife is about the same age.

They have been married twenty years. Mrs. Lawrence alleges that her husband deserted her in 1918 and has not since contributed to her support. She also alleges that he has been living with another woman.

Lawrence denies his wife's charges, and alleges that he went home one night and found the house locked, his wife gone and money and jewelry missing.

Afterwards he says his wife told him she would never live with him again. As Mr. Lawrence is now living with another woman, he says the woman is sixty-seven years old and that is his housekeeper.

## HERE'S A GROWN-UP RAT.

Benjamin Byrnes, of Rockaway, Says It Weighed 25 Pounds.

(Special to The Evening World.) ROCKAWAY BEACH, Aug. 10.—Everything is big down here this season. From the opening day Rockaway has boomed "monster" hotels, and the place is full of all sorts of "colossal" everything.

It was thought that the climax had been reached when a 300-pound shark was brought ashore last Monday. This appears to be only the beginning of the biggest, though, according to the story told by Terry Kearney, a hotelman on the Boulevard.

If a 500-lb. whale is not discovered climbing some one's back fence in Rockaway soon the place will lose prestige.

## IS ELLA RUSSELL MARRIED?

Ohio Songstress Said to Be the Bride of an Italian Officer.

(By Associated Press.) CLEVELAND, Aug. 10.—A letter has been received in this city from a lady now residing in Europe, who is an intimate friend of Ella Russell, the Ohio songstress, stating that Miss Russell had been secretly married. Her husband is said to be a young officer in the Italian army, and is described as being a man below medium height and not over handsome.

Miss Russell is a native of this city, and has been very successful abroad. She has principally been engaged by Sir August Harris in Italian opera. She will, it is stated, retain her maiden name for stage purposes.

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